

\$10 REWARD

We shall give \$10.00 in gold as a first prize, and \$5.00 as a second prize, to the boy or girl under eighteen years of age writing the best poem of two or more verses, using the MONARCH RANGE as subject of the poem. All poems to be handed in before 6 P. M. on February 16, 1905.

CHARLES HEILBORN & SON

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THE MORNING ASTORIAN

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Today's Weather.

Portland, Feb. 3.—Western Oregon
Saturday, increasing cloudiness fol-
lowed by rain.

PROPOSALS FOR PEACE.

"Out of the confusion and riot ex-
tending from St. Petersburg through-
out the Russian empire comes the
vague rumor of early peace proposals
to Japan," says the Cincinnati Com-
mercial Tribune. "Wall street, which
manages to keep in mysterious but
confidential touch with the strongest
financial pulse beats of nations, has
heard it and does not disavow its
faith. On the contrary, some consid-
erable measure of credence is given
to the report. It would not be strange
indeed if Russia were to deem this
an appropriate time and interline
reasons adequate for a move toward
the relinquishment of her Asiatic
spoils to her small but stubborn foe."

Curious reports of stratagems in con-
nection with the Russian disturbances,
of governmental plots inciting riot in
order to provide the excuse for suing
for peace with Japan, are hardly to be
believed. Such a proceeding would
be dangerous to the last degree under
the czar's autocratic repressive gov-
ernment. It can be easily believed,
however, that Russia would be willing
to terminate a struggle in which she
has already consumed her immediate
available resources, without gaining a
single advantage. Not possessed of a
capable fleet, Russia has only one hope
of victory, and that is driving Japan
back through Manchuria by the road
through which she entered. Obviously,
Kuropatkin's army is unable to do
this, and may even find it extremely
difficult to maintain its present posi-
tion when active operations are re-
sumed. Whence, then, are the im-
mense reinforcements required to be
drafted? With the spread of the anti-
war feeling, with suppressed riots
smoldering in all the centers of popu-
lation and the spirit of unrest extend-
ing into the villages, it would be dif-
ficult to call the reserves to the colors
and dangerous to further deplete the
garrisons.

Russia has lost the respect of nearly
every nation on the globe. She is re-
garded as a country whose word is
given never to keep. She has broken
every agreement she ever entered into.
For this reason she is in constant
trouble with other nations. The czar
is emperor in name only. The govern-
ment is run by a gang of licentious,
gambling princes who have no respect
for the common laborer or the poor
peasant. No government in which
the people have no voice will ever be
popular or successful. Restraint and
burdens of taxation are bound to as-
sert themselves, and though the gov-
ernment may be able to quell mobs, it
engenders a deep seated hatred for the
government and no respect for the flag.

FISH LEGISLATION.

There seems to be a misapprehen-
sion relative to the purpose of house
bill No. 147, introduced in the legisla-
ture and which was defeated Thurs-
day. The bill provided for the appoint-
ment of a deputy for Southern Oregon,
where one was badly needed, and also
provided for a clerk for the master
fish warden. The master fish warden
is compelled to maintain an office, and
as a large portion of his time is de-
voted to visiting different portions of

the state, if he has no clerk, his office
must remain closed. Fishermen apply
for fish licenses and there is no one to
issue them. It is impossible for the
warden to do all the work incumbent
upon him without clerical assistance.
Even a member of the legislature can-
not perform his duties without a clerk,
and he is provided with one. There is
no business in the state of the mag-
nitude and importance of the fish busi-
ness that is not given a clerk, and some
times several are employed.

The hand of Frank Seufert of The
Dalles appears in the defeat of the
bill. He is opposed to any fish leg-
islation that does not allow him to
violate the law on the upper Colum-
bia. He is prejudiced against the lower
Columbia and is willing to sacrifice
the industry to accomplish his evil
and narrow minded designs. He is a
professional lobbyist at Salem and in all
his years residence in Oregon has never
contributed one effort or one dollar to
stimulate and foster the industry. He
is selfish and narrow minded, but
seems to wield a certain influence
among members of the legislature that
are not acquainted with his methods.
It is a safe criterion for the legislature
to follow, to pass any measure that
Seufert opposes and to defeat any
measure that he espouses. By doing
so the fishing industry will be bene-
fitted.

Clatsop county is practically without
representation in the house. There are
two democrats there, but they voted
against house bill No. 147, possibly
from personal enmity. Clatsop county
cannot expect to secure any fish leg-
islation when it has no representation
in the lower house. It needs men there
who are acquainted with Frank Seufert
and who can tell the members who
he is. It needs men that are more in-
terested in the fishing industry than
they are in passing charters to per-
petuate the democratic party in power
in Astoria.

It does not make any difference who
is master fish warden, but as Clatsop
county is the headquarters of the in-
dustry, the master fish warden should
be a resident of Astoria, but the dem-
ocratic representatives would prefer to
give it to a sheep herder in Eastern
Oregon, who is a democrat, rather than
give it to a republican from his own
county, simply because he is a re-
publican. It is just such animosity
that creates an antagonism in the leg-
islation against the county and seri-
ously impairs the efficiency of the
master fish warden's work and injures
the industry. The representatives from
Clatsop county should represent the
industries of the county, instead of
pet democratic local measures. It is
the second largest industry in the state,
and if Clatsop county's representatives
will not work for it, it cannot be ex-
pected that other counties will take up
the fight for a republican county that
sends democrats to the legislature.

REFORM LEGISLATION.

A large number of bills have been
introduced in the legislature designated
as reform measures, many of which
have no merit, but represent the ab-
ortive efforts of a certain element im-
bued with the idea that all reforms
can be accomplished through legisla-
tive enactments. Bills have been in-
troduced prohibiting the sale of cig-
arettes. The law would be a good one
if it could be enforced. The whipping
post law has been introduced but lies
quietly sleeping the sleep of the just
in the hands of the committee. Several
bills have been introduced to prohibit
gambling, some make gambling a
felony and others make it a misde-
meanor. The statute books of Ore-
gon are burdened with useless legisla-
tion. Nearly every crime in the cate-
logue is prohibited with adequate pun-
ishment, the trouble is many of them
are never enforced.

A bill has been introduced making
gambling a felony. It is identical with
the present gambling law, with the ex-
ception that shaking dice is included
as gambling. It makes gambling a
felony instead of a misdemeanor. There
is absolutely no use for the passage of
such law. It will not be any more
strictly enforced than are the present
gambling laws. If public opinion is
opposed to gambling and the enforce-
ment of the laws, it can be done under
the present laws. Evidence of this is
furnished by the closing of gambling
in Portland by Sheriff Ward. He no-
tified all the gamblers that they must
close up their games. A great many of
them complied with his demands, while
others stubbornly fought him, but
Word won out and all gambling in
Portland is closed and the gamblers

have promised to obey the laws. If
the present laws are sufficient to close
gambling, what is the use of burden-
ing the statute books with more?

When public sentiment demands the
closing of gambling in Astoria the
games will be closed. If the police
refuse to enforce the laws, the sheriff
will. The gambling laws on the sta-
tute books of Oregon today are ample
and sufficient to close gambling. The
statute books are loaded down with
criminal laws, many of which are con-
trary to public opinion, and not en-
forced. Laws that are enforced need
no amending. Laws that are not en-
forced will not be, if they are amend-
ed. No criminal statute that is not
backed up by public opinion will be en-
forced.

HOME INDUSTRIES.

The Astorian has always advocated
patronizing home industries. It re-
alizes the fact, that nearly all of the
money sent to Portland for the pur-
chase of supplies, is sent out by the
women of Astoria, whose husbands are
in business. The efforts of a news-
paper to advocate patronizing home
industries are unavailing in face of
these facts. Those who go to Portland
to do their trading are in a great
measure identified with many of the
social functions of Astoria. They ex-
pect Astoria people to patronize their
entertainments, and frequently ask for
a reduction in prices from those who
furnish music, but when they give an
entertainment they frequently send to
Portland for their music. This is not
treating the people of Astoria with due
consideration, and opens the door for
excuses to trade in Portland. When
one branch of industry is not patron-
ized at home, but people send to Port-
land for supplies that can be pur-
chased at home, it gives other people
an excuse for doing likewise.

In another column is a communica-
tion from one of the Astoria musicians
complaining of a local organization
sending to Portland for music. If the
complaint made is true there is no
possible excuse for their actions.
Patronizing home industries means not
only patronizing the merchants, but
patronizing all local organizations who
live here and spend their money here.
Astoria has a first-class band and a
first class orchestra. Many times they
have volunteered their services for any
public enterprise free, and it is no
more than right when their services
are needed for entertainments and
balls that they should be given the
preference over Portland orchestras
or music.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Judge McBride will leave tonight for
St. Helena.
C. A. Lawton of The Dalles is in the
city on a visit.
B. A. Seaborg of Bay View was in
the city yesterday.
J. A. McIntyre of Hammond was in
the city yesterday.
H. M. Buchanan of Colorado was in
the city yesterday.
J. Clark Bell of San Francisco is
in the city on a visit.
S. D. Grady of Portland registered
at the Central yesterday.
T. G. Russell of Portland registered
at the Occident yesterday.
C. M. Pierson of Portland registered
at the Occident yesterday.
Frank Scott of Seaside was in the
city yesterday on business.
D. F. Howard and wife of Stella
were in the city yesterday.
Rev. W. S. Short returned yester-
day from a visit to Portland.
Chas. H. Carey and wife of Port-
land were in the city yesterday.
Miss Eva Coffman of Seaside visit-
ed friends in Astoria yesterday.
Miss Lou Campton is in the city,
the guest of Mrs. Albert Dunbar.
George Hannigan, editor of the Cath-
lamet Sun, was in the city yesterday.
S. G. Williams, editor of the Skam-
okawa Eagle, was in the city yester-
day.
E. A. Noyes and wife are in the
city, the guests of Captain and Mrs.
Howes.
James W. Welch and wife leave for
Hot Lake this morning to be absent
about a month.
J. C. Bell of the Alaska Packers' As-
sociation is in the city on business
connected with the company.

CALIFORNIA RESTAURANT.

Reopened Under New Management.
John Blasich has leased the Califor-
nia Restaurant and Oyster House and
is now prepared to serve the public.
The best oysters and meals in the
city. Family trade supplied. Good
cooks, polite waiters and prompt ser-
vice.

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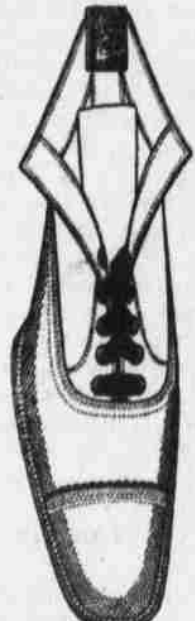
Change of Program Monday.
Change of Acts Thursdays.

MATINEE DAILY AT 2:45 P. M.

MONSTER BILL

Week Beginning
MONDAY, January 30.
CAMILLO & FONA
European Marvels, Contortionists,
Equilibrists; Camillo is the only
one doing a zig zag pyramid.
HANSON & DREW
In their rural comedy, "The Village
Bill Poster." Special attention is
called to Miss Drew's impersonation
of Sis Hopkins.
GRACIE DE WOLF
The petite song and dance artist
COLES & COLES
Novelty Athletic Aerial comedy sketch
artists in "Fun in a Gymnasium" and
marvelous feats of strength.
BOB KENYON
In pictured melodies, singing "Please
Come and Play in My Back Yard."
EDISON'S PROJECTOSCOPE.
Subjects entitled, "Coal Heavers,"
"Paris from Seine," and "De-
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Admission 10 cents to any seat.

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